

Elements of the Divine Service

Matthew 28:18-20 - The Great Commission - Baptizing

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (NIV - 1984)

Acts 10:42-43 - Preaching

⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." (NIV)

I Timothy 4:13 - Reading of Scripture

Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. (NIV)

I Corinthians 11:24-25 (See also I Cor. 10-11) - The Lord's Supper

²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵ In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." (NIV)

Hebrews 10:24-25 - Gather Together

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. ²⁵ Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (NIV - 1984)

I Corinthians 14:40 - Worship is to be done orderly.

Therefore, my brothers, be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. ⁴⁰ But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way. (NIV - 1984)

I Timothy 2:1-4 - Prayer

"I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone-- for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth." (NIV)

Biblical Descriptions of Worship:

Exodus 15:1-21 - The Red Sea Worship Committee - The content of the song is a rehearsing what God has done. Instruments, art, dancing are included.

II Chronicles 3-5 - The beauty of the temple. Notice that God is pleased with outward signs.

I Samuel 11:15-12:25 - Saul is made king. This is a worship service much more than a civic event. Law and Gospel are proclaimed. Sacrifice, confession, and absolution are given.

John 12:1-5 - An expensive offering of perfume is given to Jesus.

I Corinthians 14:26-33, 16:1-2 - Orderly Worship

What then shall we say, brothers? When you come together, everyone has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. All of these must be done for the strengthening of the church. (NIV)

Colossians 3:16-17; Ephesians 5:18-20 - The use of Psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs indicate that singing was part of early Christian Meetings (Senn 67).

Acts 4:38 - Peter's Sermon and a Description of the Early Church

Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off--for all whom the Lord our God will call."

With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. (NIV)

Matthew 26:30 - Immediately after the Lord's Supper a hymn is sung.

When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. (NIV)

Leviticus and I & II Chronicles - Old Testament Sacrificial System - God Served His People. The People Responded with Sacrifice. The temple and worship therein is a shadow Christ Jesus.

Psalm 134 - God Blesses Us. We in turn Bless Him.

Psalm 150 - Old Testament Song with instruments.